

Message Text

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AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: FRANK PRESS VISIT FOLLOW-UP: STUDENT SCHOLAR
EXCHANGES

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, FOLLOWING IS THE SUBSTANTIVE
PORTION OF A MESSAGE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE PRESIDENT
PHILIP HANDLER TELEGRAPHED TO SOME TWENTY-FIVE US COLLEGE
AND UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS ON AUGUST 4:

"THE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION WITH THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (CSCPRC), ON BEHALF OF DR. FRANK
PRESS, SCIENCE ADVISER TO THE PRESIDENT, AND DR. RICHARD C.
ATKINSON, DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION,
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A PLANNING MEETING ON AUGUST 24 AT
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THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TO DISCUSS ESTABLISHMENT
OF A U.S.-PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA STUDENT EXCHANGE PRO-
GRAM. APPROXIMATELY 25 REPRESENTATIVES OF COLLEGES,
UNIVERSITIES, UNIVERSITY ASSOCIATIONS, U.S. GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN THE EXCHANGE
PROGRAM HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

AS A RESULT OF HIS RECENT VISIT TO CHINA, DR. PRESS HAS INVITED THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO SEND A DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER 1978 TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS LEADING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A U.S.-CHINA STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM. TO PREPARE FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS, THE CSCPRC HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO CONVENE A MEETING OF ACADEMIC LEADERS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH AN EXCHANGE PROGRAM AND ITS NATIONAL COORDINATION, AS WELL AS TO SEEK YOUR ADVICE ON THE DIVERSE QUESTIONS THAT WILL ARISE IN INITIATING A STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH CHINA. SINCE 1973 THE CSCPRC HAS BEEN CONDUCTING AN EXCHANGE PROGRAM OF ONE-MONTH SURVEY VISITS BY SCHOLARLY DELEGATIONS FROM EACH COUNTRY AND, THUS HAS ACQUIRED EXPERTISE IN THIS AREA.

AMONG THE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS OUR TWO-DAY MEETING WILL ADDRESS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

--ACADEMIC TRAINING OF LESS THAN 500, 500 TO 5,000, OR MORE THAN 5,000 CHINESE STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES; TRAINING OF CHINESE STUDENTS AS UNDERGRADUATES, DEGREE GRADUATES, NON-DEGREE GRADUATES, AND SENIOR PROFESSIONALS;

--TRAINING OF CHINESE STUDENTS IN PROGRAMS CONSISTING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS ALONE AND THOSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMBINED WITH PROFESSIONAL TRAINING;

--U.S. ACADEMIC INTERESTS IN SENDING STUDENTS TO CHINA;

--THE KIND OF NATIONAL COORDINATION THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL AND NON-INTRUSIVE; AND

--THE EXTENT TO WHICH U.S. ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS ARE PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COSTS OF A NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM.

THE RESULT OF THE MEETING WILL BE A PAPER SUMMARIZING THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DESIGNING AND CONDUCTING A STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH CHINA.

IN LINE WITH THEIR PRONOUNCEMENTS LAST SPRING ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL MODERNIZATION, THE CHINESE ARE INTERESTED IN BEGINNING THE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH THE U.S. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ASSUME THE BULK OF THE STUDENTS COMING TO THE UNITED STATES WILL BE SEEKING TECHNICAL EDUCATION. YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE PLANNING

MEETING WILL GIVE SIGNIFICANT DIRECTION TO DR. PRESS AND
OTHER GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN CONDUCTING THE SEPTEMBER
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE DELEGATION...."

2. THE REMAINDER OF LETTER CONCERNS ADMINISTRATIVE
ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WASHINGTON MEETING. CHRISTOPHER

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